

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /029 R

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R 312007Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, CY

SUBJECT:LETTER FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAISE

REF: A. NICOSIA 3761 B. STATE 237548

1. ATTEMPTS BY OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS TO LOCATE INCOMING
CHRISTIS LETTER HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.

2. STANDARD LANGUAGE USED SINCE SEPT 10 IN RESPONDING TO
PUBLIC INQUIRIES IS AS FOLLOWS:

SINCE THE CYPRUS CRISIS ERUPTED IN JULY, DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS
OF THE U.S.HAVE BEEN FOCUSED ON THREE ESSENTIAL OBJECTIVES:
TO STOP THE FIGHTING ON THE ISLAND, TO ASSIST IN RELIEVING
THE HUMAN SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS, AND TO BRING
ALL THE PARTIES INTO PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS.

WE HAVE MADE PROGRESS IN EACH AREA. A CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN
ACHIEVED AND IS HOLDING.IN THE UNITED NATIONS, THE U.S.
HAS SUPPORTED EVERY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS.

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THE MOST RECENT RESOLUTION FORMALLY RECORDS SECURITY

COUNCIL DISAPPROVAL OF UNILATERAL MILITARY ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS, AND ASKS THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE RESUMED AMONG THE PARTIES.

THE U.S.HAS BEEN A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO INTERNATIONAL

EFFORTS AIMED AT RELIEVING SUFFERING ON THE ISLAND.WE HAVE ALREADY PROVIDED LARGE SUMS OF MONEY AND SUPPLIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER 31, 1974, WE WILL HAVE CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN 7.6 MILLION DOLLARS TO THIS CYPRUS RELIEF EFFORT.

IN SEEKING TO BRING THE PARTIES INTO PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ACTING IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH PRESIDENT FORD, IS MAINTAINING DIRECT AND FREQUENT CONTACT WITH THE LEADERS OF THE GREEK, TURKISH AND CYPRIOT GOVERNMENTS. THESE EFFORTS SEEM TO BE BEARING FRUIT. THESE PAST FEW WEEKS WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE TALKS WHICH HAVE BEGUN ON CYPRUS BETWEEN ACTING PRESIDENT CLERIDES AND VICE PRESIDENT DENKTASH. THE U.S. IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTING THESE DISCUSSIONS, WHICH HAVE MADE PROGRESS TOWARD RESOLVING HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AND HAVE BEGUN TO ADDRESS DIFFICULT POLITICAL PROBLEMS AS WELL.

THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE, IF THAT IS WHAT THE PARTIES DESIRE, IN HELPING TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE DIFFICULT CYPRUS PROBLEM.SUCH A ROLE WOULD BE IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR CONTINUING OVERALL GOALS, WHICH ARE: (1) TO PRESERVE THE SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS, (2) TO STRENGTHEN AND GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES WHICH RECENTLY RE-EMERGED IN GREECE, AND (3) TO RESTORE STABILITY AND PEACE TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT AREA FOR NATO DEFENSES.

OUR POLICY REMAINS,HOWEVER, TO AVOID TAKING PUBLIC POSITIONS ON EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT TERMS.WE HAVE SOUGHT TO BE FAIR AND EVENHANDED, FAVORING NEITHER TURKEY NOR GREECE. ONLY WITH THIS KIND OF APPROACH DO WE BELIEVE WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAN PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE IN PROMOTING A SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL SIDES.

THE U.S. REMAINS CONVINCED THAT ONLY THROUGH THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS CAN A FAIR AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BE FOUND AND PEACE AND STABILITY THROUGHOUT THE AREA RESTORED.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING QUOTATIONS IN
LOCAL GREEK PRESS WHICH CAUSED CONCERN. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE TALKS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE239595
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPKLEIN:PV
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740312-0739
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974102/aaaaaavn.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. NICOSIA 3761 B. STATE 237548
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETTER FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAISE
TAGS: PFOR, CY
To: NICOSIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005